

like any other in that war, he also had the modesty to return to acting and wonder if he could reclaim a place in Hollywood. And he did, of course. "It's a Wonderful Life" was his first film after the war and it not only returned him to American movie audiences, it gave us and every future generation the wonderful character of George Bailey. George Bailey, who changed so many lives without even knowing it. And, of course for many of us, Jimmy Stewart was George Bailey. Someone who succeeded in so many ways without ever appearing to fully realize how extraordinary those achievements were.

Jimmy Stewart continued to distinguish himself as a citizen, as an actor, and a devoted husband and father for the rest of his life. Once he retired from the movies, he remained active in charitable and community work, wrote poetry and became an ardent champion of film preservation, often coming to Washington to testify before Congress on the subject of coloring old black and white films—a practice he opposed.

With his death, he leaves two twin daughters and a son. He also leaves millions of devoted fans who admired him as much for his work as for the exemplary character and intelligence he projected throughout his lifetime.

Jimmy Stewart once said that he agreed to do "It's a Wonderful Life" because of one line in it: "Nobody is born to be a failure." He believed that ordinary Americans, in their everyday life, could, and did, do extraordinary things. Jimmy Stewart may have behaved as if he were just like everyone else. And he may have even believed it himself. But he really wasn't. He wasn't average at all. It was simply a final act of skill and generosity that he let us believe he was.●

#### ALLOWING MEDICARE ELIGIBLE MILITARY RETIREES TO JOIN THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFITS PLAN

● Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, I recently added my name to the list of cosponsors of S. 224, introduced by Senator WARNER, which will allow Medicare-eligible military retirees to join the Federal Employees Health Benefits Plan. After hearing from military retirees in Montana, I am convinced that this is a necessary step to help ensure that military retirees have access to quality health care.

When military retirees turn 65, they no longer have guaranteed access to military health care. The lucky ones can get services from military treatment facilities [MTF's] on a space-available basis, but the rest do not have access to MTF's. They must rely on Medicare, which has less generous benefits, despite the commitment they received for lifetime health benefits by virtue of their service to this country. They are the only group of Federal employees to have their health benefits cut off at age 65. That's just not right.

This bill offers a simple solution by allowing military retirees who are eligible for Medicare to join the Federal Employees Health Benefits Plan. This is a popular program which provides good benefits at a reasonable cost. It will serve military retirees well and uphold the Government's commitment to provide quality health benefits. Our military retirees deserve no less.●

#### HONORING THE RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM [RSVP] OF WATERLOO, IA

● Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I would like to acknowledge the accomplishments of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program [RSVP] in Waterloo, IA. This program is celebrating 25 years in their community, this year of 1997. In the last 25 years, over two million volunteer hours have been donated to the communities it serves. Among the recipients of these hours have been children, teachers, elderly, handicapped and a variety of service and community agencies. Some of the many community needs RSVP is assisting with are mentoring, assisting teachers, clerical, carpentry, transportation for the frail and elderly, mediation, respite care, tax preparation assistance, bulk mailings, money management, etc. The needs are as diverse as the volunteers themselves.

This RSVP program started out as a clearinghouse for volunteers and now includes sponsoring several programs of its own: a mediation program that assists with the small claims courts; a school volunteer program that provides mentors and other volunteers to assist with student needs; a money management program that helps individuals remain independent in their own homes; a respite program that provides relief to care givers; and a tax assistance program that provides tax preparation assistance to the low income and elderly.

RSVP provides challenging volunteer opportunities to those 55 and older. At the same time meeting many community needs through the dedication of their unselfish volunteers, who have proven to be a valuable asset to the communities they serve.●

#### REMOVAL OF INJUNCTION OF SECRECY—TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 105-13 AND TREATY DOCUMENT NO. 105-14

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, as in executive session, I ask unanimous consent that the injunction of secrecy be removed from the following treaties transmitted to the Senate on July 9, 1997 by the President of the United States:

Extradition Treaty with France (Treaty Document No. 105-13);

Extradition Treaty with Poland (Treaty Document No. 105-14).

I further ask unanimous consent that the treaties be considered as having been read the first time; that they be

referred, with accompanying papers, to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed; and that the President's message be printed in the RECORD.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The messages of the President are as follows:

*To the Senate of the United States:*

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Extradition Treaty between the United States of America and France, signed at Paris on April 23, 1996.

In addition, I transmit, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Treaty. As the report explains, the Treaty will not require implementing legislation.

This Treaty will, upon entry into force, enhance cooperation between the law enforcement communities of both countries. It will thereby make a significant contribution to international law enforcement efforts.

The provisions of this Treaty, which includes an Agreed Minute, follow generally the form and content of extradition treaties recently concluded by the United States.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Treaty and give its advice and consent to ratification.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 9, 1997.

*To the Senate of the United States:*

With a view to receiving the advice and consent of the Senate to ratification, I transmit herewith the Extradition Treaty between the United States of America and the Republic of Poland, signed at Washington on July 10, 1996.

In addition, I transmit, for the information of the Senate, the report of the Department of State with respect to the Treaty. As the report explains, the treaty will not require implementing legislation.

This Treaty will, upon entry into force, enhance cooperation between the law enforcement communities of both countries. It will thereby make a significant contribution to international law enforcement efforts.

The provisions in this Treaty follow generally the form and content of extradition treaties recently concluded by the United States.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Treaty and give its advice and consent to ratification.

WILLIAM J. CLINTON.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 9, 1997.

#### FEDERAL PROPERTY AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ACT AMENDMENTS

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to consideration of Calendar No. 103, H.R. 680.